A Juſt and True REMONSTRANCE OF HIS MAJESTIES *MINES-ROYALL* IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF WALES,

Preſented

By *Thomas Buſhell* Eſquire, *Farmer of the ſaid* Mines-Royall, *to his* MAIESTIE.

SHREWSBURY,
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Most high and mighty Soveraign,

WHereas *Your Majesty* was graciously pleased not onely to command the imployment of my Service in Your Highnesse *Mines-Royall*, occasioned by some discourse of them at *Enston-Rock*, Your Majestie vouchsafing to honour that place with your presence, but also to give your Majestie a true relation what they were when I entred upon them, what they are since at present, and of what hope for the future, if diligently pursued and cherisht by your Royall aspect: In obedience whereunto, I do in all humility affirme, That the *Mines* at my first entrance were drowned with water, and consequently not worth the working, *as by severall certificates hereunto annexed appeareth*, which did then much disencourage my undertakings; but considering how deeply your Majesties many favours had engaged me, the meanest of your Subjects, I conceived my selfe obliged to adventure upon the undermining of the adjacent Mountains, thereby to make triall, whether those *Mines* (if once discovered at the surface of the earth) would not prove richer in their deeper search; of which, having received severall opinions from the best Mineral-masters of our age, as Sir *Francis Godolphin*, M. *Alexander Roberts*, M. *Ioseph Hexsteter*, and M. *Walter Barksby*, with divers others well practised in that way, encouraging me therein; I then resolved to hazzard my fortune on them, assuring my selfe that all *Mines* and *Minerals* were to be discovered by some one or other, because originally created for mans use, and Gods glory: and thus having setled my former ir-

reſolute thoughts, I began with a cheerefull heart to cut thorow five ſeverall mountains, at their loweſt levell, which by the Art of Dialling appeared to be ſome ſixtie, ſome eightie, and ſome an hundred fathoms perpendicular, and ſo continued theſe battery-works foure yeers, night and day, before my hopes could give me any happy aſſurance that the *Minerall-beds* of theſe ſubterraneall riches lay faſt locked in thoſe barren Rocks, untill my charge grew ſo great, that I became pitied of my friends, and inſulted over by my enemies, which did anew perplex my minde: yet when I conſidered that I was not born for my ſelfe, but for the Service of God, your Majeſtie, and my Countrey, and that I had not only that heavenly guider to direct me, but alſo your ſacred Majeſtie to encourage me, I then began to caſt off my former juſtly-conceived fears, and (notwithſtanding any oppoſition or ſeeming diſſwaſive arguments) to pitch on this reſolution, that *better it were for me to ſuffer ſhipwrack in my poore eſtate and credit, then that ſuch treaſures ſhould lye buried in the* BOWELS *of thoſe vaſt mountains*, and not be made both known, and beneficiall to your gracious Majeſtie, being inherent to your prerogative, as by the Declaration under the hands of learned Counſell hereunto annexed appears, which hills, although large in extent, yet are not conſiderable in herbage, nor fit for any other plough, then the Miners ſledge, gad, and twybill.

That which firſt wrought in me a deſire to try and fathome thoſe *Mines* was a ſenſible diſcourſe delivered me by a *Portugal*, in preſence of Sir *Francis Godolphin* (by whoſe death I loſt the hope of a moſt knowing Partner) who had for many yeers been imployed under the King of *Spain* in his *weſt India Mines*, purporting that if his Maſter were Soveraign Lord of thoſe Britiſh hills, as is your Majeſtie, he ſhould not doubt but to make them a ſecond *Indies*, deeply proteſting that the greateſt riches in thoſe Mountains

taines lay in their loweſt levels, which I finde to be true by undeniable experience in thoſe five mountaines. For by this way of driving thorow the depth of Rocks, we are not onely freed from the danger and deluge of waters, but have alſo diſcovered the veines to prove richer in quantity and quality, ſome containing twenty pound, ſome fifteene, ſome tenne, and ſome ſix in Silver, in the Tunne of Lead upon the great *Teſt*, which are anſwerable to moſt of the *Mines* of the King of *Spaine*, the Emperour of *Germany*, and the Duke of *Saxony*; finding moreover, that by mixing and ſmelting theſe ſeverall veines together, the one proves a good additament to the other, and becomes thereby a meanes to advance the Mines-Royall, and in them the good of your Kingdome and Subjects.

We have many gracious teſtimonies how much the Almighty is pleaſed with theſe our innocent labours, by continuall preſervation of the workmen amidſt their hourely dangers, eſpecially in one accident, which lately befell, by driving an Addit into one of thoſe mountaines called *Tallibont*; but becauſe I was no eye-witneſſe of it, I humbly deſire your Majeſties peruſall of the narration thereof (as I received it) being then in *London*, from a Miniſter reſident Preacher to the Minerall men, hereunto annexed.

And as I am bound to give to *Cæſar* that which is *Cæſars*, ſo muſt I further humbly acknowledge your Majeſties large addition to your former Royall favours in granting mee (the meaneſt of your Creatures) liberty to give your Majeſties impreſſion to ſuch Silver as the Mole-like Miners caſt out of the Earth; for their ſpeedier payment, they being the men who make the Rocks their reſting place, and expect no other reward or benefit for their ſweaty browes then what they gaine from out of the darke Cavernes of the earth by importunate labour.

And for declaration of part of my poore indeavours,

your humbleſt ſuppliant begs a peruſall of the annexed remonſtrance, preſented by your honourable and grave miniſters of Juſtice, and other noble Gentlemen of quality, reſiding within your Principality of *Wales*, whoſe eyes have been ſpectators, as your ſervant, a diligent labourer in thoſe *Minerall Vineyards*. And having thus far traced out, & dived into the ſecrets of natures treaſures, and by the influence of your Majeſties favours, overcome thoſe amazing difficulties, which hindred the entrance of theſe great adventures, (I then, for better improvement of the works, cauſed a meeting of *Myners*, *Monyers*, *Smelters* & *Refiners*, to conſult, debate, and try, whether fuell of turfe would not ſeperate the oare, extract the ſilver, & reduce the litharge, as well as the vaſt expence of whole Forreſts of woods formerly conſumed for that purpoſe; and upon an exact triall made thereof, by altering the earthy ſubſtance of turfe into charkie cynders, we found by infallible experience, that your Majeſties Turfaries will furniſh Your *Mines Royall* with Fuell to all future ages. So that there remaineth nothing more to make the inſide of theſe barren Mountaines produce an addition of gems to your Crown, but to finiſh the building of your princely foundation by your Royall recommendation thereof to your High Court of Parliament, whoſe judgements will quickly diſcerne how much theſe *Mines* would redound to the generall good; your Majeſties gracious Letters having already cauſed ſundry Merchants, and Gentlemen of quality to take a perſonall view of the gaine, which accrewes from this publike worke of the *Mines Royall*, as a means to inrich Your Subjects the ancient *Britains* of thoſe parts, with the free trade and vent of their *Home made cloth*, and to enable them to become Merchant-adventurers, as well by land as ſea. Many others alſo of eminent ability wil be encouraged by theſe apparent poſſibilities of profit, to

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hazzard a portion of their preſent fortunes as a lot, ſo as they may be ſecured to enjoy thoſe prizes which divine providence ſhall caſt and conferre upon them in theſe their ſo honeſt adventures. And for manifeſt proofe of my proceedings in this buſineſſe, I ſhall, with Your Royall aſſent, humbly deſire a Commiſſion from the High Court of Parliament, to examine the former and preſent ſtate of the *Mines Royall*, and your Majeſties riches that are buried under the moſt inconſiderable herbage of theſe vaſt Mountains, which in time may alter the name of *Welch Rocks* into *Welch Indies*, and make it plainly appeare to any, (who is not meerly of an earthly and avaricious temper, and can in any meaſure reſent the true ſupport of a flouriſhing State) that they (if followed) cannot but prove flowers to the Crowne, a glory to the Kingdom, and a rich bleſſing to the Subject.

Be pleaſed therefore, moſt gracious Soveraign, to vouchſafe that the beames of your Royall favour may cheriſh the growth of this hopefull deſigne, ſo as it be not blaſted in the bud, and then my affectionate endeavours prove as fruitleſſe to this Common wealth, as was the neglected tender of *Columbus* his diſcovery of the *Weſt-Indian Mines* in the reigne of *Henry* the ſeventh.

And to make it in ſome meaſure appeare to your Majeſtie, how deſirous I am to advance your revenew in an imployment ſo much conducing to the publike good, I do, in all humbleneſſe offer (as an increaſe of rent after the expiration of the Lady *Middletons* leaſe aſſigned to me, and yet in being) one thouſand pounds by the yeer for and during the continuance of another leaſe thereof granted to me in reverſion; for confirmation of which leaſes by your Majeſtie, and your High Court of Parliament, I do further humbly preſent 1000 Marks as a preſine to your Majeſties Privie Purſe, over and above the benefit of your

Majeſties

Majeſties Mintage, the increaſe of ſhipping, and the importation of neceſſary commodities, occaſioned hereby, which as I am informed by Merchants of good worth that drive the trade, will amount to 4000 li. *per annum*. And for grant of the cuſtome of exportation of ſuch Lead onely, out of which the ſilver is refined, I will (ſo it pleaſe your Majeſtie) be bound to double the yeerly Revenew of the Farmers booke, according to a medium, of ſeven yeers caſt up for that Port of *Dovy* : your Majeſtie having not from any former undertaker, or Farmor of thoſe *Mines*, ever received either fine or penny of rent, all which I ſubmiſſively propoſe, and deſire the rather, to encourage my Coadventurers, who as they were firſt invited by Your Princely letters of aſſurance, ſo will they now (things being thus honourably ſetled) be moſt willing to expoſe their fortunes for the conſummating of ſo advantagious, ſo honourable, and ſo publick a good work.

Having thus made to your Majeſtie a true relation of the ſtate of your *Mines-Royall* in *Wales*, & a faithful explication of my loyall intendments, and of other Minerall mens opinions conceived of thoſe *Mines*, I profeſſe before God and your ſacred Majeſtie, that I therein have no other ends, then the glory of my Maker, the honour of your Majeſtie, and the good of my Countrey. Let me therefore, on a bended knee, humbly implore your Soveraign goodneſſe, not onely to peruſe theſe Petitions and Certificates annexed, but alſo to pardon the conſtrained prolixity of

Your Majeſties moſt humble and devoted Servant,

Thomas Buſhell.

The Declaration of learned Lawyers, what a *MINE-ROYALL* is acording to former presidents.

ALthough the Gold or Silver contained in the base mettall of a mine, in the lands of a Subject, be of lesse valew then the baser Mettall, yet if the Gold or Silver do countervaile the charge of the refining, or be of more worth then the base Mettall spent in refining it, this is a *Mine-Royall*, and as well the base Mettall, as the Gold and Silver in it, belong by prerogative to the Crown,

Sir *Ralph Whitfield*. His Majesties Serjeant at Law.
Sir *Edw. Harbert* Att. Gen.
Oliver Saint Iohns. Solicitor
Iohn Glandvill, Serjeant.
Iohn Wilde, Serjeant.
Richard Creswell, Serjeant.
Or. Bridgman the Pr. Solic.

Esquires.

Robert Holborn.
John Hern.
Edward Bagshaw.
Thomas Lane.
Richard King.
Edmund Prideaux.
John Maynard.
Edward Hide.
John Glyn.
Christopher Fulwood.
Harbottle Grimston.
John white.
George Peard.
John Francklin.
Richard Weston.
John Glover.
William Ellis.
Thomas Culpeper.
John Goodwin.
William Sanford.
John George.
James Haward.

To the Kings moſt Excellent Majeſtie.

The humble Petition of Thomas Bushell *Your Majeſties Servant.*

Moſt humbly Sheweth,

THAT whereas your Royall Father, of ever bleſſed memory, who was truly ſtiled the King of Peace, and mirror of mercy to the ſparing of life and blood, was graciouſly pleaſed, for ſaving the lives of ſuch malefactors as were condemned to death by the Law for Petty ſellonies, being ſuch as were not any ſcandall to the Church or State, nor had imbrewed their hands in blood, to admit their tranſportation to the Eaſt India, and Virginia-Companies, for furtherance of their plantations. In which action doubtleſſe he did alſo caſt his eyes upon the warrantable proceedings and preſidents of other moſt famous Princes in the like kinde, as the late Queen *Elizabeth*, who put certain Gallies of purpoſe for imployment of ſuch kind of offenders, of ſtrong and able bodies, as might attend her memorable deſignes at Sea, eſpecially upon all ſuddain and reſolute enterprizes; it being the uſuall courſe of other Chriſtian Princes, as the King of Spain, both for the ſupply of his Gallies againſt the Turks

Turks and Moores, and especially for the inlargement of his Indian Mines of Gold, Silver, Quicksilver, and the like, and his conquests of *Mollocca*, *Goa*, *Ormus*, and other rich & populous Ilands. The King of *France* for his Gallyes at *Marsellis*. The State of *Venice*. The Duke of *Florence*, who by such kind of saved offendors built *Ligorne* (one of the most famous Sea-ports within the Straits) In all which States and Services, divers of these malefactors by good incouragements have sought, not so much by surviving, as by their incredible labours, effecting matters, otherwise held invincible, to obliterate their former ignominies by merit of rewards. And whereas in this your Majesties populous Kingdome, too many such offendors are most untimely cut off in their best abilities of service, so is there within the pale of this Your Kingdome, and without any occasion of Sea, or forreigne service, means of imployment for such persons, to redeeme their lost reputation, by endeavouring to doe faithfull service for their Countries honour, and the Kingdomes good, in that happy worke, begun by your Sacred Majestie, for the better discovery of Your Silver Mines. His most humble suit therefore is, that You would be pleased, out of all these weighty considerations and beneficiall consequences, tending so much to your Honor, Crown and Dignity, and good of the Common-wealth, to grant your Majesties Commission, (if it may be thought fit by the advice of your High and Honourable Court of Parliament) for the chooſing of such severall persons out of the prisons in this your Kingdome, as are and shall be condemned for small offences, and of able serviceable bodies, by the approbation of Your

Judges, and ſhall implore your Majeſties mercy to be imployed by your ſaid ſubject in the workes of your Mines-Royall, they giving ſecurity for their good behaviour, with ſuch limitation of time, and allowance for their ſuſtentation, as to your Majeſties ſaid High Court of Parliament ſhall be thought fit, that by their dutifull and laborious performance therein, they may afterwards come into the happineſſe of your Majeſties pardon of grace for their former offences;

And your Petitioner ſhall ever reſt, &c.

To

To the
Kings moſt Excellent MAIESTIE.

Moſt Gracious *Soveraign*,

THE *Loyalty of my faithfull ſervice will not ſuffer me to conceale a bequeathed Legacy to your Majeſty by the laſt Will and Teſtament of your moſt Loyall Subject* Iohn Biſhop *of* Worceſter *lately deceaſed, of a treaſure diſcovered by him, and committed to my truſt, for revealing thereof to your* Majeſty,

Who perceiving the inclination and affection I had to Mines *and* Minerals, *much commending it, as the moſt honeſt gaine and greateſt good to a Common-wealth, began this enſuing diſcourſe unto me.*

Mr. Buſhell,

YOur own eyes ſee how neere I am to the dwelling of death, by my gray haires, which are the true records of foureſcore and fourteen yeers of age, next my limbs which have no more ſtrength then thoſe that are lap't in the Sepulchre of their winding-ſheet, onely my intellectual parts are yet preſerved to aſcribe God the glory, and to diſcloſe the ſecrets of two rich Mines, the one holding ſome quantity of Gold worth the extracting, the other in Silver worth the refining, to your truſt and fidelity, with a confidence that your

cannot conceive me guilty, of betraying your judgement with an imaginary treasure, when my soule and body are so neere the approach of death, as I must suddainly give an account in the other world, besides I have taken upon me the calling of a spirituall profession, and have this day received the Sacrament, as a pledge of my redemption, which I trust are sufficient motives, to beleeve truth from a dying mans tongue, who hath no other end, then that the hopefulnesse of such riches may not be buried by my dissolution, but that the honour and profit thereof might redound to his *Majestie*, and his royall posterity, as a living and loyall remembrance of his Princely favours to me and mine.

And thereupon he did injoyn me, upon the integrity of my allegiance, to consecrate the first fruits of my labours therein, as his discovery and service to your sacred selfe: And thus having made a true relation of his discourse to me, I leave it to your Majesties wisdom, to approve or dislike.

Your Majesties most humble Servant

Thomas Bushell.

TO
The moſt Illuſtrious PRINCE CHARLES Prince of *Wales*.

Moſt High and Mighty Prince,

AS the ſmaller Rivulets, by their naturall motions, make haſte to pay their tribute unto the vaſt Ocean, as well as do the greateſt Rivers; So come I with humble aſſurance, that your Highneſſe will not deſpiſe this poore preſent, extracted out of your *Welch* Mines, wiſhing the coyne could ſpeak that language of *Ophir*, as it doth this of *Cardigan*, wherein I truſt by Divine Providence, and your princely prevailing with the moſt honourable Court of Parliament, for the confirmation thereof; nothing doubting but that in proceſſe of time, I ſhall be able, with the aſſiſtance of my Coadventurers, and help of their greater purſe and fortunes, to make theſe Britiſh hills, as in ſcituation, ſo in eſteeme too, reſemble the Weſt Indies, or at leaſt wiſe thoſe renowned Mines of Saxony.

Thus I moſt humbly take leave of your Highneſſe, hoping your Princely goodneſſe will pardon my preſuming to preſent ſo great a Prince with ſo poore a preſent, as doth in all humbleneſſe.

Your Highneſſe devoted Beadſman.
Thomas Buſhell.

TO
Our Dread Soveraigne Lord the KINGS moſt Excellent Majeſtie.

May it pleaſe your Majeſtie,

WE do moſt humbly and thankfully acknowledge, that Your Majeſties vouchſafing to this your Principality the truſt of a branch of your Royall Mint, is an honour that neither our Anceſtors nor our ſelves durſt wiſh for; and we do as humbly and as thankfully acknowledge and confeſſe, that by it you have not onely honoured us more then any of your Royall predeceſſors, but have thereby offered us the means to inrich our ſelves, to the making of us happier then our fathers, in freeing us from the cares and fears that hindred us from diving into theſe Mountains that promiſe a maſſe of treaſure. For be pleaſed to know, that before Your Majeſtie vouchſafed unto us this great favour, we were fearfull to adventure far into the Mountaines, becauſe we had farre to ſend before wee could make the ſilver currant, that we ſhould at charge recover. Nor was our care of carriage and re-carriage the leaſt hinderance to our proceedings, from all which, by your Majeſties goodneſſe, and the endeavours of your induſtrious and faithfull ſervant *Thomas Buſhell*, we are happily freed; for which favour, we whoſe

whoſe names are hereunto ſubſcribed in the behalfe of all the inhabitants of this your Principality of *Wales*, do render all humble and hearty thanks. and for them, and our ſelves, do hereby promiſe to Your ſacred Majeſtie, that we will do our utmoſt endeavours to finde out that meaſure, which we beleeve God and Nature from the Creation hath preſerved for Your Majeſties uſe; that thereby we may approve our ſelves your Majeſties loyall and moſt obedient Subjects and humble Servants.

Thomas Milward Knight,
Chiefe Juſtice of *Cheſter*.
Marmaduke LLoyd Knight.
Richard Price Knt. Baronet.
Iames Price Knight.
Sampſon Eure Knight.
Iohn Lewis Knight.
Timothy Turnor Eſquire.
L. Littleton Eſquire.
Walter LLoyd Eſquire.
Thomas Price Eſq.
Robert Corbet Eſq.
Evan Gwin Eſq.
Morgan Herbert Eſquire.
Iohn Vaughan Eſq.
Vincent Corbet Eſq.
Humfrey Greene Eſq.
Iohn LLoyd Eſq.
David LLoyd ap Reignald Eſq.
Thomas Phillips Eſq.
Iohn Edmund Eſquire.
Hugh LLoyd Gentleman.
David Rees Gent.
Iohn Bowen Gent.
William Watkin Gent.
Iohn Meredith Gent.
Iames Kegitt Gent.

A Certificate from the *Miners*, presented to the Right Honourable, the Lords and other of his Majesties most Honourable Privy COVNCELL.

May it please your Lordships,

ACCORDING to your commands, We whose names are under written, being *Miners*, *Smelters*, *Refiners*, *Carryers*, *Washers*, and *Monyers* belonging to his Majesties *Mines-Royall*, in the County of *Cardigan*, in all humility do certifie of our certain knowledge and experience, concerning the new works lately discovered by Gods providence to *Thomas Bushell* Esquire, Farmer of his Majesties *Mines-Royall* in these parts, That the said Master *Bushell* at his inestimable charge, having cut six hundred Fathom thorow the Rock at the lowest levels, North and South, for discovering the lost veine of *Cum-sum* lock, lying East and West, two hundred Fathom thorow the Mountain of *Tallibont*, at sixty Fathom perpendicular, three severall *Addits* at *Koginean*, one above another, twenty, and thirty Fathom center, another at the *Darren*, to come under the *Romans* work, at an hundred Fathom center, another at *Bryn LLoyd* fifty Fathom in length, and thirty Fathom center, working day and night for the Drayning

ing of the water, which formerly in the time of Cuſtomer *Smith*, and Sr. *Hugh Middleton* in their working of the *Mines-Royall* was never uſed, they onely working upon the Superficies of the Earth, the works being drowned with water before they could ſink to the beſt of the vein, both for quantity and quality, and ſo the charge made to exceed the benefit, which danger is prevented by the aforeſaid *Additts*, and the *Royall Mines* become more hopefull, eſpecially by the aſſiſtance of his Majeſties Mint, for the ſpeedy payment of all thoſe that are imployed in the ſaid works, and Mr. *Buſhells* own invention to ſave Wood, by reducing the Ore into Lead, and Silver, with Turffe and Seacole Charked, which happy invention had it not been found out, the works muſt needs have been left unwrought, the Countrey not able to have ſupplyed neceſſary Fewell. And further, by the prohibition of tranſporting Ore unwrought, that holdeth ſilver worth the refining, which His *Majeſtie* in his Princely wiſdom ſaw to be very prejudiciall, even to the utter overthrow of his *Mines-Royall*.

We have therefore great reaſon to be confident that his way of working, with the reſtraint of tranſporting Ore, will in ſhort time greatly increaſe the Bullion of this Kingdom, for the honour of the King, and good of the Common-wealth, together with the employment of many hundred poore people, which would be otherwiſe an unſupportable burthen to this barren Countrey, who by their preſent labour in theſe *Mines* are able to ſubſiſt with their Family, and thouſands more might be daily ſet on work, if Mr, *Buſhells* under-

takings in the *Mines-Royall* may be confirmed for a certaine time by this preſent High Court of Parliament.

Miners:

David Fowles.
William Rashly.
Henry Cockler.
David Bebb.
Joseph Jefferies.
George Turner.
Robert Lowning.
Thomas Fletcher.
David Evans.
George Diron.
Hugh Mason.
David ap Richard.
David Loyd.
David Williams.
Henry Emblin.
Maurice Taylor.
John Emblin.
Edward Reece.
Hugh Reece.
William Davids.
George Scotsmer.
Thomas Brickhead.
William Griffith.
Peter Baltiser.
Francis Pierce.
Maurice Lewis.
Peter Edriser.
Edward Blewys.
Rob. Emblin.
Rob. Tailor.
David Jinkins.
Joseph Acherson.
Thomas Blewys.
Michael Sanders.
Morgan Williams.
Thomas Clocker.
Thomas Green.
Barthol. Clocker.
Francis Fisher,
Hugh Benn.
John Mason.
George Tickle.
John Mason.
John Fisher.
Edmund Poole.
Edward Bebb.
John Mason ſen.
William Ficharett.

Evan

Evan Thomas.
John Harris.
Will. Tyson.
Watkin Reece.
John Smith.
Morgan Pritchet.
Griffith John.
William Reece.
John Tuddar.
John Hulon.
Philip Benn.
Thomas James.

with two hundred more, whom for brevity we omit to name.

Moniers.

Henry Such.
John Corbet.
Richard Arnold.

Refiners.

John Estopp.
David Estopp.
Samuel Johnson.
Edward Gibbon.
Thomas Parker.
Arthur Elisa.

Smelters.

Thomas Botham.
Hugh James.
Griffith Evans.
John Watkin.
Jinkin Owen.
John Epslie.
John Evans.
John Lewes.
James Meredith.

Washers.

John Wringe.
Morgan John Lewis.
Davy John.
John Jinkins.
Morgan Griff. John.
Edmund Symons.
Reece Morgan.
Charles Williams.
Thomas Adams.

TO THE
RIGHT HONOVRABLE
the LORDS and others of His MAIESTIES moſt Honourable *Privie Councell.*

ACcording to your Honours command, we have enquired and conſidered how the *Mines-Royall* were left to Maſter *Buſhell* by the Lady *Middleton*, and doe in all humility declare, that the ſilver Mines were not worth the working, untill M. *Buſhell*, at his great charge, diſcovered rich Ore in the adjacent mountains, which in all likelihood will both increaſe the Bullion, and by his way of working, in ſhort time give his Majeſtie a true triall what the invaluable riches of theſe his *welch* mountains are: for whereas the Mines in theſe parts were formerly wrought by Pumps, & ſo growing deepe were left drowned with water, Maſter *Buſhell* cuts thorow the main Rocks, at the loweſt levell, to an hundred fathome perpendicular, according to the German manner of working, which though chargeable, yet certaine, having foure ſeverall Addits which he continueth driving day and night into foure ſeverall mountaines, his induſtry alſo hath outſtript former

times

times; for by melting the poore fuſible Ore with the rich, he produceth a third part more of ſilver with the ſame charge; and for accommodating the workes with all materials fit for *Mines Royall*, hee hath ſpared no coſt about repairing the Milles, hath alſo built in his Majeſties Caſtle of *Aberyſtwith* a faire Mint, hath contracted with Merchants of our owne and other Nations to ſupply the peoples neceſſity with Corne and other proviſions, and payeth the Miners and carriers at the Scales, and doubteth not to make them able Pyoners, and fit Souldiers to do his Majeſtie and their Countrey ſervice upon any aſſault of an enemy. All which we commend to your honourable conſideration, praying, &c.

Your Lordſhips humbly to be commanded,

Joſeph Herſteter, chiefe Steward of the Mines.
Samuel Reymſh, | Aſſay-Maſters of the Mint.
Water Barkesby, |
Humphrey Owen, Clerke of the Mines.

DIE SABBATI

14. *Aug.* 1641.

WHereas this houſe hath been informed, that *Thomas Buſhell* Eſquire, undertaker of his *Majeſties* Mines-Royall in the County of *Cardigan*, by his great charge and induſtry in cutting Addits hath gained His *Majeſties* old drowned and forſaken works of *Tallybont*, and other workes, and made new diſcoveries of Royall Mines there, which are already very conſiderable; And whereas divers perſons of quality encouraged by his *Majeſties* Letters to them directed, do intend to adventure great ſums of money in the ſaid works, which in time (if well incouraged) may prove of great Conſequence, both for honour and profit to His Majeſtie and the Kingdome. And whereas alſo it appeareth unto this Houſe by divers Affidavits and Certificats of credit that ſome perſons ill affected to theſe honourable and publike ſervices who in time may receive deſerved puniſhments, have diſturbed the poſſeſſion of the ſaid *Tho. Buſhell* in ſome of his *Majeſties* Mines-Royall, and Edifices appertaining to the Royall works, and have plucked up divers Plumps caſt in the rubbiſh, drowned, and (ſo much as in them did lye) deſtroyed

ſtroyed the ſaid works, ſo as it hath been a labour of four yeers night and day to recover the ſame. And that alſo the ſaid *Thomas Buſhell* hath been diſturbed in the getting of Turf and Peat for the Service of His MAIESTIES works, being an invention of his own, very commendable and commodious for the preſerving of Wood, which hath been heretofore by the former undertakers much waſted in thoſe parts. Now for the remedy of the ſaid miſchiefs, and that the ſaid *Thomas Buſhell* and his Aſſignes, and ſuch perſons as are or ſhall be Undertakers and Adventurers with him in the ſaid Service may receive all due Incouragement and Aſſiſtance in thoſe Chargeable undertakings; It is ordered by the LORDS in the upper Houſe of *Parliament* now aſſembled, That the *Speaker* of this Houſe, in the Name, and by the Authority of the ſame, ſhall direct His Letters unto the Judges of Aſſiſe, and Juſtices of the Peace of the ſaid County of *Cardigan*: Requiring them, that they do in all lawfull things endeavour to advance, and encourage the ſaid ſervice in His MAIESTIES Royall Mines, and aſſiſt the ſaid *Thomas Buſhell* and other Undertakers, in all things ſo farre as lawfully they may, both for the continuance of his lawfull Poſſeſſions, and the quiet and peaceable working of the ſaid *Mines*, untill he ſhall be evicted by due courſe of Law, as alſo for getting and working of Turf and Peat, according to his Legall right upon his *MAIESTIES* Waſtes, and other places lawfull, and all other lawfull accommodations of neceſſary paſſages, and other Legall things, which may any wayes advance His *MAIESTIES* ſervice in the ſaid Royall *Mines*.

JO. BROWNE. *Cler. Parliament.*

A letter from the L. KEEPER to the Justices of Assise, &c.

AFter my very hearty Commendations, I have here inclosed sent you an Order made in the House of the Lords *now assembled in* Parliament, *which you are carefully to observe and performe according to the directions thereof in all things, so far as Lawfully you may. So not doubting of your readinesse therein, I bid you heartily farewell, and rest*

Excester-house, 26. *Aug.* 1641.

Your very loving friend

ED. LITTLETON
Cust. Sig.

A letter to Mr. *Buſhell*, relating ſome ſtrange accidents, which happened in the MINES.

Honoured Sir,

SUffer my congratulations of your late ſucceſſe at *Tallybont* to be admitted amongſt the reſt who have repreſented the ſame to your imagination; not ſo much for the hiſtoricall report of it, as for ſpeculation on it; So it becomes my quality, for the reſt are intereſſed, I a looker on your *Addit* or great drift of *Tallybont*, after above 200 fathome in foure yeers driving to come at the chief ſhaft of the old drown'd work of 38 fathom deepe, being pierced by the water of the old worke, *June* 27, at midnight there befell two memorable accidents. The foure workmen about one in the night (as their manner was) withdrew to take *Tobacco* within ten fathom of the *Additts* mouth, leſt in the Forefield it ſhould damp the ayre, which was conveyed to them by your Leaden pipes with bellowes: Their ſmoakie banquet was not yet at an end when they heard a mighty and fearefull noiſe, which ſome of them ſaid was thunder: But old *Bartholmew Clocker* (a well experienced *Miner*) although he left the worke without any ſuſpition of ſo neere an approach, reſolved ſuddenly, the worke is holed, come let us away. No ſooner had they gotten the free ayre, but out guſheth the torrent of water with an incredible fury, ſuch a breach it made in the ſolid Rock, that it aroſe a full yards height at the *Addits* mouth, and drove away above 100 Tun of the rockie deads, affrighting the people of *Tallybont*, who heard the noiſe, and felt the water in their houſes.

I do not remember that I was ever more astonished at the prodigiousnesse of any spectacle, to see what perdition was threatned to the poore men, and they so to escape it. About foure houres after, the violence of water being past, *Fisher*, one other of the *Miners*, went in with more curiosity then wit, to see what effect it had wrought there: and being some sixty fathom in, creeping very low, his candle enkindled a vapour, which came on him with three or foure flashes, and he suddenly returning had his haire burnt off, and his cloathes scorched, in which conclusion it gave a crack like the report of a peece, and in a fierce gust of wind blew out the Candles of three more coming after him. To omit the Philosophicall inquisition of naturall causes, I account his preservation in as high a degree of wonder as the first. Thus happy are you here when least you thinke of it, for I find the subterranean spirits, the supposed guardians of concealed treasure, as officious for you as if they were in pay with you. But in a stile more proper to my pen, Behold Sir, how deare you are to Providence, which for your sake hath vouchsafed to digresse into a miracle, and such an one as is able to convert the most Sophisticall *Atheist*, whence your piety will inferre, that the gracious Authour of this incomparable bounty, expects from you some gratefull service, as high above ordinary (according to mortall capacity) as this favour hath been extraordinary. We are all deeply in the same engagement, and have learned by this experiment, that these *Addits* or Approaches (for thats, the sence of the name of old deluge works) are attempts of desperate hazzard. Me thinks these Mountaines are as so many pregnant wombs, and now in labour call for your fortunate hands to deliver them, to the honour of your Royall Master, and perpetuated glory of the Nation.

What

What ſhould you doubt in an imployment ſo ſerenely ſmil'd upon, by the higheſt both of *Heaven* and *Earth*? You uſe no Inchantment, or Magneticall Rod to diſcover the veines; your onely Magick is an ingenuous conjecture of probabilities, with a cheerfull and indefatigable induſtry, which hath hitherto ſucceeded beyond expectation of moſt, and (peradventure) the deſires of ſome. But who (as *Agricola* makes the queſtion) that is not of a nature impoyſoned with Envie, and *Malicious*neſſe, can bear unfriendly thoughts to him, whoſe ſubſtance is in a manner preſented by the hand of God. Lib. 1. de R. *M.*

I know it would be a motive of very feeble operation to tell you how Princes & States have raiſed their Crowns, by deſcending into ſuch Thyſſeſes as theſe; with ſome of whom wanton Antiquity hath been pleaſed to ſport her ſelf, and to play upon the ſimplicity of many, as *Midas*, *Gyges*, the *Argonauts*, *Cræſus*, with the States of *Athens*, over whoſe Minerals was that renowned *Thucydides* a *Præfect*, as you are here; of which *Pliny* delivers what may be worthy your attention, when he ſayes of them, that they were in a fruitleſſe ſoyle, and on the hills, (as theſe with us:) and whereſoever one veine was found, it was not far from another; among which was one called *Bebelo*, that afforded him 300 pound weight of Silver a day.

Theſe were then the veines which conveyed the blood and ſpirit of life through all the limmes of his victorious Hoſt. And have you not here our Britaines *Aſturia* before you? Who knowes whether it may not yeeld a *Bebelo*? at leaſt a *Sneberg* or *Anneberg*, who hath heretofore dreamt of a Mine at *Comſomloch*, or of the happy lot you lat ly drew from the Mountaines of *Keginian*, *Taly-*

bont, the *Darren*, *Broom-Floyd* and *Cum-mervin*? What did the outside of these promise you more then the countenances of their neighbours? But the complaint of learned Dr. *Iurdan* may here take place, That much Silver was lost, for want of taking it out of Lead-Ores. For whereas those Ores which are rich in silver are commonly hard of fusion, our Minerall-men neglect those Ores. No doubt many are concealed by reason they are Mines Royall.

Where had been the Woods and Forests yet undestroyed on these bald-headed Promontories that might suffice, had you not taught the earth to afford you all, and the worthlesse Valley to meet the barren Hill, by sending in fewell, to give forme to the matter: so that here is a rich bequest you leave to posterity, I mean your eternizing the works, by preventing the excesse of water, and defect of fire. I have no more, but to signifie my confidence, that as your desires are set on the materiall Rocks of *VVales* and *Enstone*, so will your better affections be firmely grounded upon the Rock *Christ Iesus*, that no tempest may be able to shake you, when the sandy projects of other will be laved to nothing by the floods they are built upon: Which will give more comfort and satisfaction to you then can be expressed by

Your true friend and servant,

Iulii 4. 1641.

Tho. Brodway.

An

An Answer to Mr. *Broadwayes* Letter.

M. Broadway,

YOur true Relation, and lively expreſſion of the miraculous delivery of the poor *Miners* from the deluge of waters, which iſſued forth, upon the cutting through of *Tallibont* mountain, ſeemeth by the contents of your Letter to promiſe no other reward to the firſt diſcoverers, then imminent danger of preſent death, in which, as in all things, we muſt aſcribe the glory to God alone, and as the Children of *Iſrael* were to meet with many hard accidents in thoſe Deſarts, ſo muſt we reſolve to encounter with many bitter ſtormes before we can diſcover Natures riches hidden in thoſe *Mountaines*, and who can expreſſe my ſufferings, priſing my reputation above life or fortunes? For Fame flying with the wings of Malice, deſirous to put a period to theſe my harmleſſe endeavours, hath made, as you partly know, my ſuppoſed friends, to become my profeſſed foes, and my neereſt in blood, my greateſt ſorrow, leaving me as naked as was *Iob* in his greateſt affliction, ſome conſtruing theſe my *Minerall adventures* to be but the Fabrick of a fantaſtick brain, others alledging that the greatneſſe of my charge would ruine both me, and thoſe who gave me credit, whereby thoſe friends that conferred on me timely courteſies, inſtead of increaſing, or continuing them,

were

were moved to preſſe me for more ſpeedy payment, then my preſent abilities were able to make good. What throes of ſorrow perplext my midnight thoughts in theſe deep ingagements, I leave to you to judge. I will therefore haſten my coming down, to ſettle the affairs of this great work, that I might redeeme the miſ-ſpent time of my youth by ſome memorable deſigne in my age, the hopefulneſſe whereof you are pleaſed ſo to amplifie, which I truſt will give livelihood to many, injurie to none, and be of much honour to our Nation, which was ever the height of my ambition, reſolving to reſt content with whatſoever the wiſe Dipoſer of all ſhould conferre upon me, and hereafter to leave thoſe friends in truſt, whom I found firmeſt, thereby both to pay themſelves, and ſatisfie others, to whom I ſtand engaged. And thus with many thanks for your kinde Letter, and good counſell, I ſhall ever remaine,

Your faithfull Friend

Thomas Buſhell.